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Sent: Monday, November 10, 2008 3:14 PM
To: Ripp, Jeffrey PSC; Stefanik, Lisa PSC
Subject: WOW paper comments

Hi Jeffrey and Lisa:

I just heard about the Wind on the Water (WOW) paper today, from one of my Lake Superior Binational Program colleagues, Ann McCammon Soltis. I have not had a chance to thoroughly read the report but preliminarily, I would like to agree with Ann's comments about the Lake Superior Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP). While it is true that the present Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement pertains primarily to water quality, the LaMPs, and especially the Lake Superior LaMP, have also been specifically tasked by the US-Canada Binational Executive Committee (BEC) to address ecosystem issues.

In addition, the Lake Superior Binational Program, signed by the states of WI, MI and MN, the federal governments of US and Canada, and the Province of Ontario, called for the Zero Discharge Demonstration Program (targeted at nine critical pollutants) as well as the "Broader Ecosystem Program". The Broader Ecosystem program specifically recognizes that the protection and restoration of the Lake Superior ecosystem is essential to the overall ecosystem health of Lake Superior.

In addition, as you know, the Water Quality Agreement is currently undergoing revision and reevaluation. It is expected that ecosystem protection will be a critical component of any new Agreement. It is also possible that the LaMPs will have a more visible and significant role in Great Lakes ecosystem management.

In sum, I think it is essential that the priorities, programs, objectives and goals of the Lake Superior LaMP (and the Lake Michigan) be considered in any decision on wind power turbines with relation to Lake Superior. I support Ann McCammon Soltis' comments on the paper.

When I have had time to fully read the report, and disseminate to the entire USEPA Great Lakes National Program Office, I may have additional comments.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth LaPlante
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US Co-Chair, Lake Superior Work Group